

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLO SACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4516

E.O. 11652: GDS: 12-31-79

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: NATO SPECIALIZATION STUDY, SUB-GROUP ON LOGISTICS

REF: USNATO 4376

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SEP 24 LETTER FROM ACTING STEERING GROUP
CHAIRMAN (BUWALDA) TO MISSION, WHICH INDICATES AGREEMENT BY
STEERING GROUP MEMBERS TO FORMATION OF LOGISTICS SPECIALIZATION
SUB-GROUP IN ACCORDANCE WITH LATEST US PROPOSAL (SEE REF TEL).

BEGIN QUOTE:

DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR,

I HAVE BEEN INFORMED ORALLY BY THE GERMAN AND UK
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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES, WHO FOR VARIOUS REASONS HAD RESER-
VATIONS ON SETTING UP A LOGISTICS SUBGROUP ALONG THE LINES
PROPOSED BY THE US IN THEIR PAPER USNATO (ILO)/OHT/NS 73-90,
THAT THEY ARE NOW PREPARED TO TAKE PART IN THE WORK OF SUCH A

SUBGROUP BASED ON THE LATEST US PROPOSALS MADE IN YOUR LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER 17, 1973.

THE BELGIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE HAS INFORMED ME THAT THERE ARE NO OBJECTIONS ON HIS SIDE TO SETTING UP THE SUBGROUP ON LOGISTICS.

THE CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE HAS LET ME KNOW THAT HE CAN AGREE WITH THE GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBGROUP AS PROPOSED IN YOUR LETTER OF SEPTEMBER 17, BUT THAT, FOR THE TIME BEING, CANADA IS NOT IN A POSITION TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE STUDY AND WILL BE REPRESENTED BY AN OBSERVER.

ALL PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES CONCERNED HAVE LET ME KNOW THAT THEY HAVE TAKEN NOTE OF THE FACT THAT THE SUBGROUP WILL BEGIN WITH AN EXAMINATION OF LOGISTICS SPECIALISATION EFFORTS WHICH ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY BETWEEN NATIONAL MILITARY FORCES OR AS A RESULT OF THE WORK OF OTHER NATO GROUPS SUCH AS EUROLOG AND NAMSA AND THAT NO COMPREHENSIVE REPORT OR OVERALL SOLUTION WOULD BE EXPECTED. THEY CAN AGREE TO AN EFFORT TO REPORT IN DECEMBER THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY OF ON-GOING ACTIVITIES AND TO IDENTIFY ONE OR TWO AREAS WHICH WOULD PRODUCE PRACTICAL RESULTS AS WELL AS ANY OTHER AREAS WORTH FURTHER STUDY.

BASED ON THIS REPORT THE STEERING GROUP WOULD THEN HAVE TO CONSIDER WHETHER IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE THE SUBGROUP CONTINUE ITS ACTIVITIES.

AS MY AUTHORITIES CAN ALSO ACCEPT THE SETTING UP OF A LOGISTICS SUBGROUP, BASED ON YOUR LATEST PROPOSALS, I THINK THAT WE CAN NOW DO SO, WITHOUT HAVING A MEETING OF THE STEERING GROUP.

AS PROPOSED DURING THE LAST MEETING OF THE STEERING GROUP, I AM ASKING THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO AGREE THAT A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF, PROBABLY OF THE DEFENSE SUPPORT DIVISION, BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LOGISTICS SUBGROUP AND CONVENE THE CONFIDENTIAL

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FIRST MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

I PROPOSE TO DISCUSS, AT A NEXT MEETING OF THE STEERING GROUP, THE SETTING OF TARGET DATES FOR ORAL AND INTERIM REPORTS BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LOGISTICS SUBGROUP.

I AM SENDING COPIES OF THIS LETTER TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE AND TO OUR COLLEAGUES ON THE SPECIALISATION STEERING GROUP.

YOURS SINCERELY,
P. BUWALDA
ACTING PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

END QUOTE.

MCAULIFFE

CONFIDENTIAL

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THE HAGUE
LONDON
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OTTAWA

USNMR SHAPE
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